United Nations A/63/967–S/2009/515

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
14 September 2009

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-third session
Agenda item 19
Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

Security Council
Sixty-fourth year

Letter dated 24 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure, in my capacity as Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, to enclose herewith the Special Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba, adopted by the Fifteenth Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009 (see annex).

I kindly request that the above-mentioned Declaration be circulated as a document of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Maged **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

09-54779 (E) 081009

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 24 July 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Special Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Movement on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The Heads of State and Government renew the Non-Aligned Movement's commitment to defend, preserve and promote the United Nations Charter and international law.

They firmly reiterate their rejection to the adoption and implementation of extraterritorial or unilateral coercive measures or laws, including unilateral economic sanctions or other illegal measures contrary to international law that seek to exert pressure on Non-Aligned Countries so as to prevent them from exercising their right to decide, by their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems. In this context, they call on all States to refrain from recognizing such measures or laws, which undermine the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter and international law, and severely threaten the freedom of trade, navigation and investment.

The Heads of State and Government stress that under no circumstances people should be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development.

The economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba has been in place for 50 years. Seventy per cent of Cubans have been born under the embargo.

The Heads of State and Government express their concern over the continuation of that long-standing unilateral policy with extraterritorial effects, even after it has been consistently rejected by the overwhelming majority of States.

In addition to the 17 resolutions already adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the necessity of ending the embargo against Cuba, numerous other declarations and resolutions of different Governments, and intergovernmental forums and bodies, including for many years the Non-Aligned Movement, have clearly expressed the rejection by the international community and public opinion to the continuation of that policy.

The extraterritorial nature of the embargo, institutionalized and systematized by the Torricelli and Helms-Burton Acts, has brought about serious additional damages to the Cuban economy in its economic relations with third countries and with subsidiaries of United States enterprises over the two last decades.

In this connection, the Heads of State and Government urge once again the Government of the United States of America to immediately put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba which, in addition to being unilateral and contrary to the United Nations Charter and international law, and to the principle of neighbourliness, is causing huge human suffering and material losses and economic and financial damage that has negatively impacted on the welfare and well-being of the people of Cuba. They further urge the government

of the United States of America to immediately fully comply with all the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly related to the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

Sharm El Sheikh, July 2009